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# **CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER**

**24-HOUR REPORT** 

21 September 2022

## (U) CALIFORNIA

# (U) Los Angeles – LA Unified School District Cyber Attackers Demand Ransom

(U) Hackers who targeted the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) have made a ransom demand, an indication that the attackers have extracted sensitive data or believe they can bluff the district into thinking that they have the data. Officials are optimistic that Social Security numbers and other sensitive information of employees remain secure. The attempted theft of data was one element of the attack on LA Unified, the other involved attempting to disable district computer systems, making them inaccessible. Although both elements of the attack were only partly successful, full recovery has been difficult. The LA Unified attack has been linked to a criminal syndicate that calls itself Vice Society, although authorities have declined to confirm it.

SOURCE: 20 September 2022, <u>LA Times</u>

## (U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

## (U) Texas – Stash House Dismantled by Laredo Sector Border Patrol and Texas DPS

(U) Laredo – Border Patrol agents closed a stash house while working with Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) in Laredo. Agents assisted DPS with a welfare check of a residence where a total of 13 individuals were found inside the residence. After an immigration inspection of the individuals, agents determined that they were in the country illegally. All the undocumented non-citizens were from the countries of Mexico, Honduras, and Guatemala. All were taken into custody by US Border Patrol and processed accordingly.

SOURCE: 20 September 2022, US CBP Press Release

## (U) NATIONAL

#### (U) Florida – Smuggling Investigation Ongoing after 11 Migrants Land on Jensen Beach

(U) Marin County – US Border Patrol agents and law enforcement partners responded to a maritime smuggling event at Jensen beach. Law enforcement responded and 11 migrants from Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and Georgia were taken into custody. The migrants were provided medical assistance and the federal investigation is ongoing.

SOURCE: 20 September 2022, WPBF News

#### (U) Maryland – Two People in Custody as Police Investigate Suspicious Device at School, Motel

(U) Baltimore – Two people are in police custody after a suspicious device was found in a car near Pine Grove Middle School in Baltimore County. Authorities advise that they have arrested one person in connection to the suspicious package near the school and another at a hotel near the school. The suspicious device forced two Baltimore County schools to be evacuated and authorities said there are no threats to the community at this time. Officers performed controlled measures to investigate the suspicious devices, which created a loud boom. Authorities are still investigating the incident. SOURCE: 20 September 2022, CBS Baltimore

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#### (U) New York - Two NYC Correction Officers Admit to Smuggling in Drugs for Bribes

(U) New York City – Two New York City correction officers pleaded guilty to accepting thousands of dollars in exchange for smuggling contraband into Rikers Island prison for Bloods gang members. The suspects admitted to sneaking in cell phones and drugs after receiving bribes in a scheme that official called "immoral, unethical, and without integrity." Correction official found drugs and cell phones in an inmate's cell and law enforcement tracked down texts from one of the correction officers that revealed the arrangement. The suspects both plead guilty and face multiple years in prison. SOURCE: 20 September 2022, NY Post

#### (U) Oregon - Man Pleads Guilty to Breaking Windows at Oregon Planned Parenthood

(U) Portland – A man who broke windows and security cameras at a Planned Parenthood clinic in southwestern Oregon has pleaded guilty to two counts of violating the federal Freedom of Access Clinic Entrances Act. The suspect admitted to breaking five security cameras, a window, and a sign at the Grants Pass clinic because he opposed abortion. He also stated he returned several days later and threw a concrete block through a window, tore down an intercom system and broke lightbulbs. The suspect told officers that all Planned Parenthood facilities needed to be shut down. He faces two years of probation for each count and has agreed to pay restitution to Planned Parenthood.

SOURCE: 20 September 2022, The Columbian

#### (U) INTERNATIONAL

#### (U) Iran - Five Killed During Protests over Death in Custody

(U) Saqez – Five people were killed in Iran's Kurdish region when security forces opened fire during protests over the death of a woman in police custody. The incident sparking a third day of turmoil occurred last week when a woman fell into a coma and died following her arrest in Tehran by the morality policy. Two of the people were killed as security forces opened fire on protestors in the Kurdish city of Saqez, the victim's hometown. Two more were killed in the town of Divandarreh "by direct fire" from security forces, and a fifth was killed in Dehgolan, also in the Kurdish region. There was no official confirmation of the deaths. Official news agencies in Iran advised there were "limited" protests in a number of cities in seven provinces that were dispersed by police.

SOURCE: 19 September 2022, Reuters

## (U) Israel – Officials Arrest Seven Members of Hamas Cell Planning Attacks

(U) Hebron – The Shin Bet security agency said security forces recently uncovered and arrested a Hamas network in Nablus and Hebron that planned shooting and bombing attacks. According to the agency, the group of seven members was directed by a Hamas member in the Gaza Strip to prepare for attacks against civilians and security forces in the West Bank. Officials advise the group had practiced shooting and had conducted tests with explosive devices. Several firearms were seized following the arrests. SOURCE: 20 September 2022, Times of Israel

## (U) Nigeria – Authorities Seize 1.8 Tons of Cocaine, Five Arrested in Nigerian Bust

(U) Abuja – Nigeria's anti-drug agency seized a record 1.8 tons of cocaine valued at \$278 million at a Lagos warehouse in the country's largest bust ever. Five people were arrested in connection with the narcotics. Officials said the suspects were members of an international drug syndicate the agency has

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been trailing since 2018. The drugs were found in a secluded estate where investigators believe "the cartel was trying to sell to buyers in Europe, Asia and other parts of the world." Drugs seizures have been rising in West Africa in the last year, indicating that traffickers have made the continent a hub to move their illegal products between South America and Europe.

SOURCE: 19 September 2022, ABC News

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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